

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED
AUTHORITY HELD ON FRIDAY 28TH MARCH 2025 AT OLDHAM TOWN HALL**

PRESENT

Mayor of Greater Manchester	Andy Burnham (in the Chair)
Deputy Mayor (Police, Crime & Fire)	Kate Green
Bolton	Councillor Nicholas Peel
Bury	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien
Manchester	Councillor Joanna Midgley
Oldham	Councillor Arooj Shah
Rochdale	Councillor Neil Emmott
Stockport	Councillor Mark Hunter
Tameside	Councillor Eleanor Wills
Trafford	Councillor Tom Ross

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Salford	Councillor Jack Youd
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OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Group Chief Executive Officer, GMCA, GMFRS & TfGM	Caroline Simpson
Group Monitoring Officer	Gillian Duckworth
Group Chief Finance Officer	Steve Wilson
Bolton	Sue Johnson
Bury	Lynne Ridsdale
Manchester	Paul Marshall
Oldham	Shelley Kipling
Rochdale	Steve Rumbelow
Salford	Melissa Caslake
Stockport	Michael Cullen
Tameside	Harry Catherall
Trafford	Sarah Saleh

Wigan	James Winterbottom
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
TfGM	Steve Warrener
TfGM	Martin Lax
GMCA	Sarah Horseman
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Lee Teasdale

GMCA 35/25 APOLOGIES

1. That apologies be received and noted from received and noted from Councillor Bev Craig (Manchester), City Mayor Paul Dennett (Salford), Councillor David Molyneux (Wigan), Tom Stannard (Manchester), Sara Todd (Trafford), Alison McKenzie-Folan (Wigan) & Councillor Nadim Muslim.
2. That the GMCA expresses its condolences to Councillor Nadim Muslim and his family following the recent loss of his father.

GMCA 36/24 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester, opened the meeting by confirming that Carlos Meakin had been appointed as the new Deputy Chief Fire Officer following the retirement of DCFO Ben Norman. Congratulations were expressed to Carlos who had risen through the ranks of GMFRS as a ‘home grown’ success story, and thanks were expressed by all to Ben Norman for his considerable contributions to the improvements in GMFRS seen in recent years.

Councillor Mark Hunter informed members of the concerning announcement made by SKY overnight that they planned to close three of their call centres, resulting in the loss of circa 2000 jobs. Stockport Council were only advised of this at around the same time as the media. This amounted to a ‘bolt from the blue’ for Stockport and would mean serious job losses in the region. Support was expressed for these individuals and the Mayor of Greater Manchester would work with the Leader of

Stockport to arrange a meeting with SKY's leadership to discuss their rationale, explore any possible alternatives, and ensure that they fulfil their responsibilities to their employees and the GM community.

The GMCA expressed its thanks and best wishes to Councillor Mark Hunter, following the announcement that he intends to stand down as the Leader of Stockport Council at the end of May 2025.

The GMCA expressed its thanks and best wishes to Steven Rumbelow ahead of his retirement as the Chief Executive of Rochdale Borough Council in April 2025.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the appointment of Carlos Meakin as the new Deputy Chief Fire Officer of Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service be noted and welcomed.
2. That the GMCA record its thanks to the outgoing Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Ben Norman, for his considerable contributions to the work of Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service.
3. That the GMCA records its support for all individuals impacted by the announcement that SKY was planning to close three call centre sites in the UK, including Stockport, putting 2,000 jobs at risk.
4. That the Mayor of Greater Manchester will work with the Leader of Stockport Council and relevant officers to arrange a meeting with SKY's leadership to discuss their rationale, explore any possible alternatives, and ensure that they fulfil their responsibilities to their employees and the GM community.
5. That the GMCA record its thanks and best wishes to Councillor Mark Hunter, following the announcement that he intends to stand down as the Leader of Stockport Council at the end of May 2025.
6. That the GMCA record its thanks and best wishes to Steven Rumbelow following his retirement as the Chief Executive of Rochdale Borough Council.

GMCA 37/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED /-

There were none.

**GMCA 38/25 MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 7 FEBRUARY
2025**

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 7 February 2025 be approved as a correct record.

**GMCA 39/25 MINUTES OF THE GMCA OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE HELD ON 26 FEBRUARY 2025**

RESOLVED /-

1. That the minutes of the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 26 February 2025 be noted.

**GMCA 40/25 GMCA BEE NETWORK COMMITTEE MINUTES – 27
FEBRUARY 2025**

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the GMCA Bee Network Committee held on 27 February 2025 be noted.

**GMCA 41/25 GMCA WASTE & RECYCLING COMMITTEE – MINUTES OF
THE MEETING HELD ON 12 MARCH 2025**

RESOLVED /-

1. That the proceedings of the meeting of the GMCA Waste & Recycling Committee held on 12 March 2025 be noted.

**GMCA 42/25 GMCA AUDIT COMMITTEE – MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD ON 19 MARCH 2025**

RESOLVED /-

1. That the proceedings of the meeting of the GMCA Audit Committee held on 19 March 2025 be noted.

GMCA 43/25 GM APPOINTMENTS

RESOLVED /-

1. That the appointment of Councillor Jackie Schofield as the GMCA substitute member to Councillor Nick Peel (Bolton) be noted.
2. That Councillor Jacqueline Owen (Tameside) be appointed as a member of the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
3. That Councillor Sangita Patel (Tameside) be appointed as a substitute member of the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
4. That Councillor Helen Foster-Grime (Stockport) be appointed to the GM Culture & Social Impact Fund Committee.
5. That Councillor Sean Fielding (Bolton) be appointed to the GM Homelessness Board.
6. That Councillor Helen Foster-Grime (Stockport) be appointed as a substitute member of the GM Homelessness Programme Board.

Councillor Mark Hunter, Portfolio Lead for Children & Young People, presented a report outlining the key findings of the 2024 survey results, ahead of publication in late March 2025, and providing an overview of the next steps.

This was the fourth year of the survey which had heard from some 100,000 young people in 196 secondary schools across GM. Life satisfaction and psychological wellbeing scores had been a key focus of the survey. The feedback had indicated some positive results but with a persistent undercurrent of inequalities. It was also noted that wellbeing remained lower for those students who identified as LGBTQI+.

The Mayor welcomed the report, stating that the survey had developed into an incredible resource for the region – providing a ‘treasure trove’ of insights into how young people in the region were thinking and feeling. These insights would be particularly helpful in revising the further education picture in the region and getting to the root of the issue for those young people who end up in a position where they are not in education, employment or training.

Members reflected that the report highlighted more than ever how important it was not to remove any safety nets from families suffering financial insecurities. 10% of children had indicated that there were times when the food in their home had ‘run out’ and they were left hungry, which was shocking. The Mayor agreed, stating that the report would aid in the further development of the Live Well proposition.

It was confirmed that whilst this report focussed on the GM aggregate figures, these figures were available to councillors on a level broken down by neighbourhoods.

It was also noted that the findings would be helpful to Councillor Arooj Shah in her role as the national Chair of the LGA Children & Young People’s Board.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the key findings of the 2023 #BeeWell survey results be noted.
2. That approval be given to act on what the data is telling us and support the #BeeWell mission to make young people’s wellbeing everybody’s business. Support the development of an action plan to improve young people’s wellbeing, across the city region and into localities and neighbourhoods. Utilise

the insights to inform future policy, including our ambitions to create a stronger education system.

3. That GM Local Authorities be requested to celebrate the improvement of young people's wellbeing by sharing a quote or short video clip to beewell@manchester.ac.uk highlighting how you are supporting young people in Greater Manchester to #BeeWell.
4. That it be noted that the dashboard breaking down details by neighbourhood will be published on 4th April 2025.
5. That the GMCA record Councillor Mark Hunter thanks to the Children & Young People's Team at the GMCA for their support to him as portfolio lead over the past two years.
6. That it be noted that the findings will be helpful to Councillor Arooj Shah in her role as the national Chair on the LGA Children & Young People's Board.

GMCA 45/25 DELIVERING THE BEE NETWORK (PERFORMANCE & DELIVERY)

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester, presented a report providing an overview of the performance of Greater Manchester's transport network for the period December 2024 – February 2025.

The Mayor highlighted the successful implementation of the 'Pay and Go' scheme which had gone live on 23rd March 2025. Thanks were expressed to the officers at TfGM who had collectively led on the launch of this system, which now concluded phase 1 of the Bee Network launch. It was also noted that Pay and Go had proved to be an immediate success with 120,000 customer uses of it within the first four days of operation.

Work had already taken place to improve and optimise 75 different bus routes across GM, showing the benefits of the powers now afforded through the Bee Network.

Punctuality had now risen to over 80% in tranche 1 areas, up from a low of 69% pre-franchising.

Safety and security issues were highlighted. The GMCA was advised that a significant agreement had now been reached following extensive communications with Greater Manchester Police and TfGM, which would see the launch in the autumn of 2025 of TravelSafe Live Chat. This was a dedicated service focussed on safety on the public transport system. The introduction of this was not possible until the autumn as it was more than simply an app/front door, but instead would make use of all resources in the system to integrate and create a uniformed presence alongside a safely accessible live chat function.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the performance of Greater Manchester's Transport Network be noted.
2. That the GMCA record its thanks to the team at TfGM for the delivery of the 'Pay and Go' scheme from 23rd March, concluding a successful phase 1 launch of the Bee Network.
3. That it be noted that a significant agreement has been reached with Greater Manchester Police on the introduction a TravelSafe Live Chat from Autumn 2025.
4. That minimum models of service for Partington and other areas traditionally underserved by transport networks in the region will be considered as part of the network review.
5. That it be noted that within the first 4 days of operation, the 'Pay and Go' system had seen 120,000 customers take advantage of the scheme.

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester, provided an update outlining the GMCA approach to responding to the Department for Transport’s (DfT) Rail Reform Consultation: A Railway Fit for Britain’s Future.

The response from GM would be shaped around what it was felt the city region required to ensure that the Bee Network system, including the integration of the six rail lines, worked smoothly as a single system. It was vital going forward that rail was not an outlier within the system, and that it performed to the same level seen across other transport modes.

The Mayor would be asking all Members of Parliament in the region to support the asks being made through the consultation process.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the content of the consultation and how it related to Greater Manchester’s ambitions for rail be noted.
2. That the outline GMCA response to the consultation, and the proposed approach for developing the response further be endorsed.
3. That authority be delegated to the Group Chief Executive, in consultation with the GM Mayor, to finalise and submit a response to the consultation.
4. That all GM MPs would be asked to support the lobbying of government on rail reform in the region.
5. That the Group Chief Executive will seek agreement on the transfer of rail land to TfGM for regeneration as part of the Task and Finish Group.

**GMCA 47/25 APPROACH TO THE ALLOCATION AND USE OF
FLEXIBILITIES IN THE INTEGRATED SETTLEMENT FUNDING
FOR 2025/26**

Caroline Simpson, GMCA Group Chief Executive, presented a report providing an overview of, and seeking approval for, the proposed approach to the allocation and ongoing management of the Integrated Settlement funding, and the use of flexibilities for the 2025/26 financial year.

The settlement figure for the first year was confirmed as £630m. It was stated that this first year would be a transitional one, and GMCA was in the process of agreeing a number of outcomes with the government around the allocation and spending of the funding settlement. As part of the process, the report set out some of the principles being proposed around resource allocation for the next financial year.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the approach to the use of integrated settlement flexibilities within 2025/26 be approved.
2. That the approach to virement of integrated settlement (under GMCA constitution scheme of delegation) be approved
3. That a further report be submitted to the GMCA in due course.

**GMCA 48/25 DETAILS ON THE PRINCIPLES AND ACTIVITY OF THE
2025/26 UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND EXTENSION**

Steve Wilson, Group Chief Finance Officer, presented a report outlining the principles and details of the activity for the 2025/26 extension of UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) into the Local Growth and Place Pillar of Integrated Settlement.

The paper set out the allocations with a particular focus on the impact of a 19% reduction in national funding and how the VCSFE sector could be protected at 24/25 levels whilst also minimising the impact upon the GM local authorities, and also taking advantage of the new flexibilities available.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the approach to allocations to programmes formerly funded through UKSPF for 2025/26 under the Local Growth and Place pillar of Integrated Settlement and the proposed allocations and proposals, as set out in the report, be approved.

GMCA 49/25 WORKING WELL: INDIVIDUAL PLACEMENT AND SUPPORT IN PRIMARY CARE (IPSPC) PROGRAMME

Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, Portfolio Lead for Technical Education, Skills & Work presented a report providing an update on the Working Well: Individual Placement and Support in Primary Care (IPSPC) programme, including an overview of the current procurement process being undertaken for a similar service to be in place for 2025/26.

Included within the report was a proposal related to the approval of a new contract similar to the offer previously provided through Working Well.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the procurement of a similar service to the current Working Well: IPSPC programme for 2025/26, on the basis set out in this report, be approved.
2. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Chief Executive Portfolio Lead and Portfolio Leader for Technical Education, Work & Skills, to approve the award of the new contract and any post-award variations to the contract including approving any extensions provided for in the contract.

GMCA 50/25 IMPLEMENTATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING FUND TO LAUNCH ROLL-OUT OF GM LIVE WELL

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester & Caroline Simpson, GMCA Group Chief Executive, presented a report outlining Greater Manchester's Live Well ambition and seek approval for the establishment of an implementation support fund to initiate roll-out. GM Live Well aims to deliver consistent and comprehensive support across all

neighbourhoods in Greater Manchester, contributing to the Growth and Prevention plan over the next 10 years.

There was a significant amount of momentum building around Live Well and early investment was required to capitalise upon this. £10m investment had been received from the government as part of their inactivity trailblazer. GMCA now sought to match the government investment with an additional £10m.

The principles on which the monies would be spent had been developed with all localities and neighbourhood teams, and this funding would be transferred in full to these localities to support the capacity needed to properly deliver the Live Well model. 50% of this funding would also be provided to local VCFSE sector partners as acknowledgement of the absolutely vital services they provided within the local ecosystem.

RESOLVED -/

That the use of £5m to create an implementation support fund, as set out in paragraph 4, including the flow of investment into localities, noting the specific deliverables identified in the report, be approved.

GMCA 51/25 GMCA HOMELESSNESS AND A BED EVERY NIGHT

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester, provided an update on the Homelessness work of the GMCA and specifically, A Bed Every Night. To seek approval for the proposed allocation and administration arrangements for a range of Government grants for 2025/26.

It was advised that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee had considered A Bed Every Night at its latest meeting, and during an encouraging conversation on how GM had improved its homelessness support services in recent year had raised some helpful points. These included concerns around availability of beds, particularly for women and larger families; a landscape that was quite complex for councillors to provide the right signposting; and considering any opportunities that could be developed through the Live Well model.

It was recognised that to meet the increased level of challenge being faced, there was a need to further strengthen the Bed Every Night offer, and the paper proposed an uplift in the programme to 600 individuals from April 2025.

It was raised that officers in Bolton had picked up on some underperformance in the rough sleeper accommodation grant. Flexibilities in the grants would allow for the identification of quicker and better results.

RESOLVED /-

1. That approval be given to the proposed funding allocations and administration arrangements as set out in the report, for the following programmes:
 - Rough Sleeping Prevention and Recovery Grant
 - Rough Sleeping Accommodation Grant
 - A Bed Every Night
 - GM Housing First/RSAP Programme
 - Youth Homelessness Prevention Pathfinder
2. That the current position in relation to the GM Community Accommodation Tier 3 programme be noted.
3. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Group Chief Finance Officer to determine the final allocations to the projects, referred to in Tables 5) and 6) in the report, in the event that the additional required funding referred to in paragraph 5.10 becomes available.
4. That the comments raised by the GM Overview & Scrutiny Committee be supported and that officers be requested to consider how these recommendations could be incorporated into the Live Well model given the funding implications.
5. That it was noted that the Rough Sleeper Accommodation Grant was currently underperforming and that consideration may want to be given to secure improved and faster results.

Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, Portfolio Lead for Technical Education, Skills & Work, presented a report setting out the achievements and performance of GM's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) for the 2023/2024 academic year, the developments and progress of GM's Adult Skills for the current 2024/2025 academic year, setting out priorities and plans for the 2025/2026 academic year, and setting out proposed direction of travel for Integrated Settlement- bringing together skills & work.

The benefits of the devolved skills funding were really beginning to be seen, with engagement the economically inactive rising exponentially and an overall 54,000 people having engaged with adults skills provision – a significant step towards the target of getting an extra 150,000 people into employment.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the achievements and performance of Greater Manchester's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) for the 2023/2024 academic year, set out in Section 2 of the report, be noted.
2. That the developments and progress of Greater Manchester's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) for the current 2024/2025 academic year, set out in Section 3 of the report, be noted.
3. That the approach towards integration, as set out in Section 5 of the report, be noted.
4. That approval be given to the indicative 2025/2026 academic year GM Adult Skills allocations for grant funded and procured providers and that delegated authority be granted to the Group Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Leader and Chief Executive Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital, to agree any minor changes that arise during discussions between each institution / organisation and GMCA, set out in Section 4 of the report.

5. That authority be delegated to the the Group Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Leader and Chief Executive Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital, to make decisions relating to commissioning and procurement of skills & work delivery during the 2025/2026 academic year utilising existing adult skills funding and any adult skills reserves, set out in Section 4 of the report.
6. That support for the administration and management costs for the 2025/2026 academic year, be approved.
7. That the Mayor of Greater Manchester approved the proposed indicative 2025/2026 academic year GM Adult Skills allocations for grant funded Local Authorities and to grant delegated authority to the Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Leader and Chief Executive Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital, to agree any minor changes that arise during discussions between each institution and GMCA, set out in Section 4 of the report.
8. That the Mayor of Greater Manchester approved the continuation of the Adult Skills LA Grant Programme to each of the ten local authorities for the 2025/2026 academic year.
9. That the GMCA record its thanks to Gemma Marsh for all her considerable work on leading the skills landscape in GM.

GMCA 53/25 BUSINESS RATES UPDATE

Steve Wilson, Group Chief Finance Officer, presented a report providing an update on the position in respect of the new 100% retained business retention scheme agreed as part of the Trailblazer Devolution Deal (TDD). It includes the latest position on the current GM business rates funded schemes, the forecasts for 2024/25 expenditure

and income and seeks support for proposed 2025/26 schemes, funded from the income expected to be received in 2024/25.

The Mayor highlighted comments raised by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee. These included members highlighting that there remained a number of uncertainties regarding the impact of business rates reset and that this did not allow for long term planning of priorities; concern was expressed that the £0.5m for flood management may not be sufficient; and whilst the climate crisis cut across all priority areas, it was still vital that this was not overlooked as a area of priority for the region.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the forecast, as at the end of quarter 3, for 2024/25 business rates income be noted.
2. That the planned income for 2025/26 be noted.
3. That the proposed 2025/26 GM use of the 2024/25 business rates income be approved.
4. That the position in respect of the future developments in relation to retained business rates be noted, including:
 - National business rates reset
 - GM partial reset
 - Approach to the use of income secured through the enhanced business rates retention zones
 - Alignment of future business rates income with the GMCA Integrated Settlement
5. That the comments raised by the GM Overview & Scrutiny Committee be received.

**GMCA 54/25 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT,
MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY STATEMENT AND
ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2025/26**

Steve Wilson, Group Finance Officer, presented a report setting out the proposed Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Borrowing Limits and Prudential Indicators for 2025/26 to 2027/28 for the Authority. The strategy reflects the 2024-2028 capital programme for Transport, Economic Development, Fire and Rescue, Waste and Police.

RESOLVED /-

That the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for 2025/26 be approved.

GMCA 55/25 2025/26 GMCA CAPITAL STRATEGY

Steve Wilson, Group Finance Officer, presented a report providing an update on the GMCA Capital Strategy.

RESOLVED /-

That the Capital Strategy for 2025/26 be approved.

GMCA 56/25 GMCA REVENUE UPDATE – QUARTER 3 2024/25

Steve Wilson, Group Chief Finance Officer, presented a report informing members of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority financial position at the end of December 2024 (Quarter 3) and forecast revenue outturn position for the 2024/25 financial year.

RESOLVED /-

That the forecast position at 31st December 2024 be noted.

GMCA 57/25**NET ZERO HOUSING RETROFIT FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT**

Councillor Tom Ross, Portfolio Lead for Green City Region, presented a report providing information on the procurement of a GMCA led £1 billion national Net Zero Housing Retrofit Framework Agreement. The Framework Agreement provided a Public Procurement Regulations compliant route to market for Local Authorities and Social Housing Providers, amongst others, to procure energy efficiency and low carbon heating retrofitting measures in social and private sector housing.

By taking a leading role and procuring this national framework, the GMCA had created an opportunity to local green technology firms to access this funding pot.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the creation of a Net Zero Housing Retrofit Framework Agreement be noted and that its use be promoted.
2. That it be noted that the sustainability assessment identified numerous long term positive impacts on health, wellbeing, jobs and skills as well as carbon reduction through the increase in home energy efficiency and reduction in fuel poverty.

GMCA 58/25**MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (MDC) FOR
NORTHERN GATEWAY – CONSULTATION**

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester presented a report setting out the plans to consult on the establishment of a Mayoral Development Corporation (MDC) covering the Northern Gateway sites in Atom Valley.

The Mayor emphasised that in any scenario, it was absolutely vital that Atom Valley moves forward with the highest degree of ambition to deliver on its potential for the north east of the region over the next decade and it was vital to now get into the position to commence delivery, with a streamlined focussed governance system put into place, particularly in advance of the anticipated government industrial strategy, and infrastructure strategy. It was known that a highway strategy would be required in order to unlock the full potential of the site.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the Mayor undertaking a consultation exercise in respect of the designation of a Mayoral Development Corporation for Northern Gateway (Chapter 4) be endorsed.
2. That it be noted that a further report setting out the outcome of the consultation will be submitted to the GMCA.
3. That the Mayor of Greater Manchester approved the undertaking of a consultation exercise in respect of the designation of a Mayoral Development Corporation for Northern Gateway.
4. That Transport for Greater Manchester would be requested to accelerate the Tram/Train Pathfinder to support the business case for Atom Valley and the Northern Gateway MDC.

**GMCA 59/25 PROPOSED EXPANSION OF STOCKPORT MAYORAL
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (MDC) CONSULTATION**

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester presented a report seeking approval from the GMCA to consult on the expansion of the Mayoral development area covered by Stockport Mayoral Development Corporation from the area 'Stockport Town Centre West' to include the area 'Stockport Town Centre East' enabling it to become the delivery vehicle for housing-led regeneration across the entirety of Stockport town centre.

RESOLVED -/

1. That the proposal for contact to be made with the relevant Government department to outline proposals for the expansion of the Stockport Mayoral development area and obtain support for the proposed process for expansion, as set out in this report, be approved.
2. That the proposal to undertake a consultation on expanding the Mayoral development area covered by Stockport Mayoral Development Corporation

from the area 'Stockport Town Centre West' to include the area 'Stockport Town Centre East' (see Appendix One), enabling it to become the delivery vehicle for housing-led regeneration across the entirety of Stockport town centre be endorsed.

3. That the Mayor of Greater Manchester approved the undertaking of a consultation exercise, as described above and in the report.

GMCA 60/25 GM HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND / GM BROWNFIELD HOUSING FUND

Steve Rumbelow, Chief Executive Lead for Housing First, presented a report seeking for the GMCA to agree a delegation to the GMCA Chief Executive acting in conjunction with the Portfolio Lead for Housing First to approve urgent variations to existing funding from the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund, and to approve new funding and urgent variations to existing funding from the Brownfield Housing Fund.

From the end of March 2025, it would not be possible to enter into any new agreements to allow for a runoff period of 3 years until the fund formally closes in 2028. This had been a massively successful fund to date. It had originally formed a £300m loan from government and since had been used to support over £1bn of investment into loans supporting housing development and around £26m of equity funding. The target had been to see 10,000 homes delivered and there had been an overachievement with circa 11,000 homes built.

RESOLVED -/

1. That authority be delegated to the Group Chief Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Housing, to approve urgent variations to existing funding from the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund, and approve new funding and urgent variations to existing funding from the Brownfield Housing Fund, in the period 29 March 2025 to 29 May 2025.
2. That authority be delegated to the Group Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the GMCA Monitoring Officer to prepare and effect the necessary legal agreements.

3. That the achievements of the GM Housing Investment Loan Fund, which will be closed to new commitments at the end of March 2025 be noted.

GMCA 61/25 GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK FUND

Steve Wilson, Group Chief Finance Officer, presented a report seeking approval to delegate authority to the Combined Authority Chief Executive in consultation with the Group Chief Finance Officer and the Portfolio Lead for Investment and Resources, to approve projects for funding and agree urgent variations to the terms of funding previously approved by the Combined Authority, for the period 29 March 2025 to 29 May 2025.

RESOLVED /-

1. That an equity investment of £125,000 to Wi-Q Limited, approved under delegation be noted.
2. That authority be delegated to the Group Chief Finance Officer and Group Solicitor and Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information in respect of the above loans, and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the loans, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the loans noted above.
3. That authority be delegated to the Group Chief Executive Officer, and Group Finance Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Investment and Resources, to approve projects for funding and agree urgent variations to the terms of funding in the period 29 March 2025 to 29 May 2025.
4. That it be noted that any recommendations that are approved under the delegation will be reported to the next available meeting of the Combined Authority

